Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 05305 01 OF 02 221821Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00
INRE-00 ACDE-00 /026 W
----------087529 221826Z /43
P 221805Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7004
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK PRIORITY
AMEM?-SSY ROME PRIORITY 3108
USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
USDEL MC BRUSSELS PRIORITY
USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY
CINC EUR VAIHINGEN PRIORITY
CINC USAREUR HEIDELBERG PRIORITY
CINC USAFE RAMSTEIN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 05305

EXDIS

MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 05305 01 OF 02 221821Z

USSALTTWO

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: MILI MPOL MNUC PARM MBFR SALT NATO GW US
SUBJECT: TOUR D'HORIZON MEETING WITH DEFENSE MINISTER
APEL

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

BEGIN SUMMARY. THIS CABLE DESCRIBES COMMENTS WHICH MINISTER APEL MADE TO ME ON SEVERAL SUBJECTS ON MARCH 21 DURING MY FIRST CALL ON HIM IN HIS NEW CAPACITY AS DEFENSE MINISTER. APEL LOOKS FORWARD VERY MUCH TO SECRETARY BROWN'S VISIT TO BONN ON APRIL 13, AND HOPES TO DISCUSS A WIDE RANGE OF QUESTIONS WITH HIM.
END SUMMARY.

1. ON MARCH 21, I MADE MY FIRST CALL ON HANS APEL IN HIS NEW CAPACITY AS MINISTER OF DEFENSE. HE IMPRESSED ME AS FRESH, ENERGETIC, AND EAGER TO FACE THE MANY CHALLENGES OF HIS NEW POSITION. HE SEEMED EXTREMELY WELL INFORMED FOR ONE WHO HAD BEEN IN OFFICE FOR SUCH A SHORT TIME. APEL SPOKE IN HIS UNUSUALLY FLUENT ENGLISH, AND EXPRESSED HIMSELF EFFORTLESSLY, EVEN ON THE MOST COMPLEX QUESTIONS. HE IS OBVIOUSLY EAGER TO WORK CLOSELY WITH US. FOR EXAMPLE, I HAD REQUESTED THE APPOINTMENT WITH HIM ONLY ON MARCH 20 AND IT WAS GRANTED IMMEDIATELY.

2. WE DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS (MY CONVERSATION WITH HIM ON AWACS IS REPORTED BY SEPTEL):

SECRETARY BROWN'S VISIT

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

3. MINISTER APEL SAID HE LOOKED FORWARD VERY MUCH TO SECRETARY BROWN'S VISIT TO BONN ON APRIL 13. HE FELT THE TIMING OF THE VISIT WAS GOOD. IF SECRETARY BROWN HAD COME EARLIER, AS WAS AT ONE TIME SUGGESTED, HE, APEL, MIGHT NOT HAVE HAD ENOUGH TIME TO BECOME SUFFICIENTLY CONVERSANT WITH THE MANY COMPLEX ISSUES BEFORE HIM. HE SAID HE WAS WILLING TO SPEND AS MUCH TIME AS NECESSARY WITH SECRETARY BROWN ON APRIL 13, BECAUSE HE FELT IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE TO DISCUSS A WIDE RANGE OF QUESTIONS SUCH AS AWACS, THE "TWO-WAY STREET," SALT, THE NATO LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM AND HOST NATION SUPPORT. I MENTIONED TO APEL THAT SECRETARY BROWN MIGHT ALSO RAISE WITH HIM THE VARIOUS PROBLEMS WHICH US FORCES IN GERMANY ARE ENCOUNTERING WITH THE GERMAN POSTAL AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE (BUNDESPOST).

PRESIDENT CARTER'S MARCH 17 SPEECH AT WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

4. APEL HAD READ THIS SPEECH AND WAS "MUCH IMPRESSED" BY THE PRESIDENT'S STRONG REAFFIRMATION OF AMERICA'S

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

COMMITMENT TO PROTECTING ITS INTERESTS AND ITS ALLIES
AROUND THE WORLD. HE WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED AT THE
EMPHASIS WHICH THE PRESIDENT PLACED ON WORKING CLOSELY
WITH OUR NATO ALLIES TO STRENGTHEN AND MODERNIZE OUR
DEFENSES IN EUROPE.

EAST/WEST NEGOTIATIONS AND DETENTE

5. APEL EMPHASIZED THE NEED TO CONTINUE A POLICY OF

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 05305 02 OF 02 221829Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00
INRE-00 ACDE-00 /026 W
----------087633 221839Z /41
P 221805Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7005
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY
USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
USDEL MC BRUSSELS PRIORITY
USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY
CINC EUR VAIHINGEN PRIORITY
CINC USAREUR HEIDELBERG PRIORITY
CINC USAFE RAMSTEIN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 05305

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

EXDIS

DETENTE OR OSTPOLITIK WITH THE WARSAW PACT. "THIS IS MY CREDO," HE SAID. ANY BREAKDOWN IN THE ON-GOING ARMS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 05305 02 OF 02 221829Z

CONTROL NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE EXTREMELY UNFORTUNATE. ONE MUST BE FIRM WITH THE WARSAW PACT, BUT READY TO NEGOTIATE. APEL SAID IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO THE EAST/ WEST RELATIONSHIP IF THERE COULD BE PROGRESS IN SALT IN THE NEAR FUTURE. HE EMPHASIZED THAT WE MUST CONTINUE TO WORK FOR CONCRETE RESULTS IN THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS. HE OBSERVED THAT THEY WERE VERY SLOW MOVING AND THAT SOME DIPLOMATS APPEARED TO BE "MAKING A CAREER" OUT OF MBFR IN THE PLEASANT SURROUNDINGS OF VIENNA.

6. IN THE DETENTE CONTEXT, I MENTIONED TO APEL THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS OF COURSE WORKING WITH THE SOVIET UNION IN A VARIETY OF AREAS, INCLUDING THE LIMITATION OF CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFERS.

ENHANCED RADIATION WEAPON (ERW)

7.APEL EXPRESSED STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE IDEA OF OFFERING NON-DEPLOYMENT OF ERW'S IN EXCHANGE FOR AN APPROPRIATE SOVIET CONCESSION IN ARMS CONTROL. HE SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT TO SHOW FRG PUBLIC OPINION THAT WE WERE TRYING TO USE THE ERW TO ACHIEVE ARMS REDUCTIONS. IF THE SOVIETS DID NOT ACCEPT OUR OFFER AFTER TWO YEARS, THE ERW'S "SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO EUROPE."

8.APEL SAID THAT WILLY BRANDT AND SPD BUNDESTAG MEMBERS HERBERT WEHNER AND ALFONS PAWELCZYK HAD ALL EXPRESSED SERIOUS DOUBTS TO HIM THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD BE WILLING TO MAKE ANY ACCEPTABLE CONCESSION IN RETURN FOR NON-DEPLOYMENT OF ERW'S. APEL SAID HE NEVERTHELESS FELT IT WAS WORTH MAKING AN OFFER TO THE EAST.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BONN 05305 02 OF 02 221829Z

9.APEL SAID HE FELT THAT, IN ANSWER TO BREZHNEV'S LETTER ON THE ERW, THE FRG SHOULD BE POLITE AND EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR THE CONTINUED PURSUIT OF DETENTE, BUT SHOULD CLEARLY STATE THAT THE FRG FEELS

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

THREATENED BY THE LARGE WARSAW PACT BUILD UP, "THE TANKS, ETC." HE SAID ONE SHOULD SAY TO BREZHNEV IN EFFECT: IF YOU REALLY DON'T WANT US TO DEPLOY THE NEUTRON WARHEADS, THEN YOU MUST MAKE REAL CONCESSIONS. APEL DID NOT EXPRESS A PREFERENCE FOR ERW LINKAGE, BUT HE EMPHASIZED THAT, IF THE LINKAGE IS TO THE SS-20, THE GREAT THREAT OF THE TANKS REMAINS.

NATO LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM

10. APEL SAID THE FRG WOULD PROBABLY FULFILL UP TO 90 PERCENT OF ITS PART OF THE NATO LTDP. HE SAID THAT "IF WE PROMISE THE REMAINING TEN PERCENT, THE QUESTION IS WHERE THE MONEY WILL COME FROM." HE SAID THIS QUESTION WOULD BE DISCUSSED BY THE CABINET. HOWEVER, APEL EMPHASIZED THAT GERMAN CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LTDP WOULD BE AMPLE. AS REGARDS THE LTDP HE SAW NO REAL MONEY PROBLEMS -- AS OPPOSED TO AWACS (SEE SEPTEL).
STOESSEL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, SALT (ARMS CONTROL), DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BONN05305
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780126-0706
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780339/aaaabgxd.tel
Line Count: 243
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d971c1bf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3244577
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TOUR D\'HORIZON MEETING WITH DEFENSE MINISTER APEL BEGIN SUMMARY. THIS CABLE DESCRIBES COMMENTS WHIC
TAGS: MILI, MPOL, MNUC, PARM, GE, US, NATO, MBFR, (APEL, HANS)
To: STATE DOD MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d971c1bf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014